[Mr. M. Nilakanda Pillai.]

Government have no information as regards the rates paid by the Company to Mr. Chotani.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: Was not this contract entered into by the Conservator of Forests in anticipation of Government sanction?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: Yes.

MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: Why was this draft agreement kept in the Conservator's office instead of being sent to the divisional office as is usually done?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: There is no information available now. It is difficult at this stage to make an enquiry as to the person who kept it in the Conservator's office.

PERSONS WHO HAVE PROCEEDED TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES ON GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS OR ON STUDY LEAVE DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

50. MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the names of persons who have proceeded to foreign countries during the last five years on Government scholarships or on study leave?

(*b*) How many of them have returned and what are the qualifications acquired by each of them from foreign countries?

(*c*) What is the amount spent by Government on each of these persons?

(*d*) Have any of these persons returned after obtaining the requisite qualifications?

(*e*) Are the services of all these persons now availed of by Government? If not, why?

(*f*) What are the conditions of service offered by Government to each of these persons?

(*g*) Have any of them accepted places outside the State? If so, on what terms?

MR. K. GEORGE: (*a*) to (*f*) A statement ‡ giving the required information is laid on the table.

(*g*) Government have no information.

PURCHASE OF MEDICINES FOR THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

51. MR. M. NILAKANDA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state the cost of European medicines, surgical instruments and other appliances purchased for the State during 1096, the amount paid to firms in Europe and the amount for which these articles have been purchased locally, and whether the Government assured themselves of the quality of the drugs purchased locally?

‡ *Vide* Appendix II- page 649.

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MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: In 1096, medicines to the value of Rs. 83,392-15-14 were purchased from Europe and of Rs. 1,13,366-14-15 (including Rs. 24,467-21-4, the value of the quinine received from the Madras Cinchona Department) from India.

The officer in charge of the medical stores has certified to the quality of the drugs purchased locally.

ADMISSION OF ALL CLASSES TO THE TRIVANDRUM RAILWAY SATROM.

52. MR. N. KUMARAN: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Trivandrum Railway Satrom is open to all classes of His Highness' subjects;

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the negative, the ground on which this satrom is reserved for a few classes;

(*c*) whether its maintenance is charged to public revenues and, if so, what is the amount spent on it; and

(*d*) if the satrom cannot be thrown open to all classes, whether the Government will take up the question of providing another satrom near by for all classes?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: (*a*) & (*b*) The Railway Satrom at Trivandrum has not been constructed at Government cost and it is open to caste Hindus only.

(*c*) The maintenance of the satrom is charged to Panivagai.

(*d*) The matter will be considered.

JAGGERY ARRACK MANUFACTURED IN THE NAGERCOIL DISTILLERY.

53. MR. PAUL V. DANIEL: Will the Government be pleased to state whether the jaggery arrack manufactured in the Nagercoil Distillery was ever subjected to chemical analysis and, if so, with what results?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: This was subjected to chemical analysis and was found to contain no deleterious matter.

ALLEPPEY-SHERTALLAI CANAL.

54. MR. JOSEPH PANJIKARAN: Will the Government be pleased to state the following particulars concerning the Alleppey-Shertallai canal:

(1) the number of miles of canal opened at each end;

(2) the cost incurred in opening them;

(3) the cost estimated at the outset for opening the whole canal;

(4) the cost now estimated for opening the remaining portion;

(5) the number of years required for completing the work;

(6) the estimated cost of maintenance per mile;

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